

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 14 July 2005 (14.07.05);
original claims 1 to 33 replaced by new claims 1 to 33 (5 pages)]

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A container for providing a liquid mixture, the container comprising: a container member defining a charge holding space adapted to contain a fluid mixture, the charge holding space being opened for allowing to withdraw the liquid mixture, and a steeping device having a housing defining a steeping chamber therein, the steeping device having a one-way flow control member allowing the introduction of a fluid in the steeping chamber without allowing leakages of the introduced fluid, the steeping device having an outlet aperture adapted for allowing the fluid introduced in the steeping chamber to flow into the charge holding space.
2. A container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the one-way flow control member includes an inlet membrane.
3. A container as claimed in claim 2, wherein the inlet membrane includes a silicone membrane.
4. A container as claimed in any one of claims 2 and 3, wherein the steeping device comprises an inlet aperture in fluid communication with the steeping chamber, the inlet aperture being covered by the inlet membrane.
5. A container as claimed in any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the inlet membrane is mounted to the housing.
6. A container as claimed in claim 5, comprising a support member adapted for mounting the inlet membrane to the housing.
7. A container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, comprising an outlet membrane covering the outlet aperture and allowing the introduced fluid to flow into the charge holding space when the steeping chamber is filled.

8. A container as claimed in claim 7, wherein the outlet membrane includes one of a silicone membrane and a laminated film membrane sealingly mounted to the steeping device.
9. A container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the container member comprises lateral walls with a lower portion and the steeping device is mounted to the lower portion of the lateral walls.
10. A container as claimed in claim 9, wherein the steeping device comprises an engaging member adapted to engage the lower portion of the lateral walls.
11. A container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the steeping device comprises a filter paper disposed in the steeping chamber.
12. A container as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the steeping chamber is adapted to contain a steeping material therein.
13. A steeping device for providing a liquid mixture, comprising:
 - a housing defining a steeping chamber adapted to contain a steeping material therein and the housing having an outlet aperture allowing the withdrawal of a fluid introduced into the steeping chamber; and
 - a one-way flow control member allowing the introduction of the fluid into the steeping chamber while preventing the introduced fluid to flow out from the steeping chamber therethrough.
14. A steeping device as claimed in claim 13, comprising an outlet membrane covering the outlet aperture and allowing the introduced fluid to flow outside the steeping chamber when the steeping chamber is filled.
15. A steeping device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the outlet membrane includes one of a silicone membrane and a laminated film membrane sealingly mounted to the steeping device.

16. A steeping device as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 15, comprises an engaging member adapted to engage a container member to mount the steeping device thereto.
17. A steeping device as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 16, wherein the one-way flow control member includes an inlet membrane.
18. A steeping device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the inlet membrane includes a silicone membrane.
19. A steeping device as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 18, wherein the steeping device comprises an inlet aperture in fluid communication with the steeping chamber, the inlet aperture being covered by the inlet membrane.
20. A steeping device as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 19, wherein the inlet membrane is mounted to the housing.
21. A steeping device as claimed in claim 20, comprising a support member adapted for mounting the inlet membrane to the housing.
22. A steeping device as claimed in any one of claims 13 to 21, wherein the steeping device comprises a filter paper disposed in the steeping chamber.
23. A steeping device in combination with a container adapted to contain a liquid therein, the steeping device comprising:
 - a housing defining a steeping chamber adapted to contain a steeping material and having an inlet aperture and an outlet aperture adapted to be in fluid communication with the steeping chamber, the housing being securable to the container, the outlet aperture being in fluid communication with the container when the steeping device is mounted thereto; and
 - an inlet membrane covering the inlet aperture, the inlet membrane allowing the introduction of a fluid into the steeping chamber and

preventing the introduced fluid from leaking outside the steeping chamber through the inlet aperture; and

the container comprising an aperture allowing the withdrawal of the liquid from the container.

24. A combination as claimed in claim 23, comprising an outlet membrane covering the outlet aperture and allowing the introduced fluid to flow into the container when the steeping chamber is filled.
25. A combination as claimed in claim 24, wherein the outlet membrane includes one of a silicone membrane and a laminated film membrane sealingly mounted to the steeping device.
26. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 25, wherein the container comprises a lower portion and the steeping device is mounted to the lower portion of the container.
27. A combination as claimed in claim 26, wherein the steeping device comprises an engaging member adapted to engage the lower portion of the container member.
28. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 27, wherein the inlet membrane includes a silicone membrane.
29. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 28, wherein the inlet membrane is pre-pierced.
30. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 29, wherein the inlet membrane is mounted to the housing.
31. A combination as claimed in claim 30, comprising a support member adapted for mounting the inlet membrane to the steeping device.
32. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 31, wherein the steeping device comprises a filter paper disposed in the steeping chamber.

33. A combination as claimed in any one of claims 23 to 32, wherein the steeping chamber is adapted to contain a steeping material therein.